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NEWS

Proposed improvement plan for Nutile Field to be unveiled

CHRIS STEVENS | CORRESPONDENT

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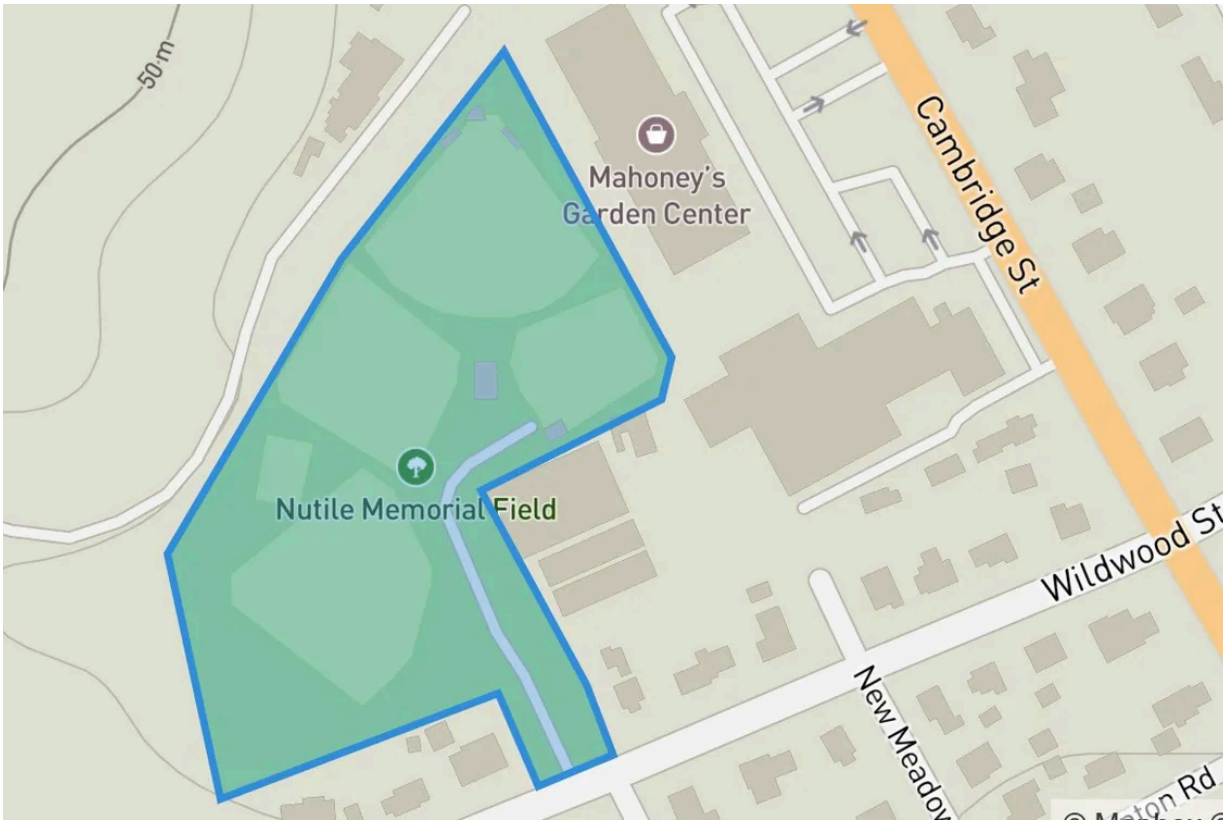

Winchester Youth Baseball & Softball is looking to renovate Nutile Memorial Field C, which is tucked in between fields B and D on Johnson Road. COURTESY PHOTO

Possible improvements to Robert J. Nutile Field C are on deck for
Select Board meeting.

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Winchester Youth Baseball & Softball (WYBS) is looking to renovate the field tucked in between fields B and D on Johnson Road. According to the proposed plan, changes could include installing a new vinyl coated chain link backstop and dugout, adding a metal roof to the dugout and replacing the grassy infield with synthetic turf, similar to Skillings Field.

Organizers state in the proposal that makeup clay, which currently exists in the infield, inhibits water absorption when it rains. That, they say, leads to runoff which can take months or even years to be absorbed.

Synthetic turf is permeable, which, combined with other elements, would significantly reduce surface runoff and its impact to the watershed.

The presentation was initially slated to come before the board Oct. 15, but was postponed to Oct. 28.

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Select Board Chair Michelle Prior said the group had already met with the Fields Management Committee, and according to a memo from Recreation Department Director Nick Cacciolfi, they support the proposal.

But the backing came with some stipulations:

• WYBA must notify the neighbors of the proposed work and listen to their feedback.

• They should also be clear with the exact figure needed for maintenance and replacement. Synthetic turf has a shelf life.

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It was also noted the fee structure for the use of that field would likely change and those changes would have to be recommended by the FMC to the Select Board as an amendment to the Field Policy Document.

FMC said the WYBS should also have a plan in case parents on the softball side of the organization demand equal use of the turf field for their programming making it equitable for all.

Select Board member Bill McGonigle asked if the presenters were looking for specific action or just wanted to float the idea.

Town Manager Beth Rudolph said since the field is a town asset, they would need the board's permission to move forward with the project. The Conservation Commission is also required to chime in on the project and organizers would need to acquire building permits and hire a contractor before construction could even get underway.

Prior noted the board's role was about more than just granting permission. Since the field is situated between two others, how will they access it; if it impacts field B, will it be restored to its current condition?

"We'd have to know all of those things before we grant permission, and make sure we understand what we're getting back and the untouched portions that will probably be touched if they are putting equipment in or dragging things across," Prior said. "Maybe they have answers for that, too."

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Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

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FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

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EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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